

## Environmental and Social Data Sheet

### Overview

Project Name:	WELSH WATER AND WASTEWATER AMP6 - I	
Project Number:	2015-0683	
Country:	United Kingdom	
Project Description:	Welsh Water provides 3.2 million people in Wales and adjoining areas of England with drinking water and sanitation services. The Programme consists of part of Welsh Water's capital expenditure programme for the regulatory period 2015-20 (AMP6) as approved by the economic regulator OFWAT in 2014. It comprises a set of investments to increase the resilience and performance of drinking water treatment and water supply assets as well as investments for wastewater treatment to ensure continued compliance with EU Directives.	
EIA required:	yes	
Project included in Carbon Footprint Exercise <sup>1</sup> :	no	

### Environmental and Social Assessment

#### Environmental Assessment

The Promoter is a licensed water and sewerage company. Statutory duties with regard to the protection of the environment are embedded within key legislations for the UK water industry, including duties in relation to conservation of biodiversity and natural habitats.

As required under the UK Water Act, the promoter has built its investment planning on a Water Resources Management Plan with a long-term view of the availability and demand for water throughout the service area. This was prepared for the Assets Management Plan 6 in 2014 and subject to a Strategic Environmental Assessment.

Compliance with applicable Environmental Legislations (national and EU), including EIA legislation is inherent to the definition of the investments programme, with close cooperation between the environmental and economic regulators. The industry economic regulator OFWAT, as well as the Environmental Agency and the Drinking Water Inspectorate closely monitor the investment programme from planning to implementation and operation, ensuring cost-effectiveness and compliance with the Water Framework Directive (WFD 2000/60/EC), the Urban Wastewater Treatment Directive (UWWTD 98/15/EEC), the Bathing Water Directive (2006/7/EC) and the Drinking Water Directive (98/83/EC). The Promoter is also expected to comply with the requirements of the EU EIA Directive (2011/92/EC) (when required), as well as Article 6 of the Habitats Directive (92/43/EEC) and the Birds Directive (2009/147/EC).

The Programme is strongly environmentally driven and therefore has predominantly positive effects on the environment. The various schemes included in this Programme aim at upgrading water supply and wastewater collection and treatment to maintain compliance with EU directives. Most of the investments are taking place on existing installations and have limited local environmental impact. Some of the schemes under the Programme will require a full EIA and the promoter shall comply with EU and national environmental legislation. During implementation of the Programme, NTS will be provided to the EIB for publication. The

<sup>1</sup> Only projects that meet the scope of the Pilot Exercise, as defined in the EIB draft Carbon Footprint Methodologies, are included, provided estimated emissions exceed the methodology thresholds: above 100,000 tons CO<sub>2</sub>e/year absolute (gross) or 20,000 tons CO<sub>2</sub>e/year relative (net) – both increases and savings.

Promoter will also be required to provide upon request decisions issued by the competent authority regarding the impact on nature conservation sites. The Programme is considered acceptable for EIB financing.

## **Conclusions and Recommendations**

The programme aims at upgrading existing facilities to support compliance with the EU Water Framework Directive (WFD 2000/60/EC), with the Urban Wastewater Treatment Directive (UWWTD 98/15/EEC), with the Bathing Water Directive (2006/7/EC) and with the Drinking Water Directive (98/83/EC). The Programme is strongly environmentally driven and therefore has predominantly positive effects on the environment. Most of the works to be carried out under the Programme consists of upgrades of existing sites, where the overall impact of construction will be limited. However, some individual schemes selected under the Programme will require an EIA and the promoter shall comply with European and National regulation.

The Promoter is expected to comply with the requirements of the EU EIA Directive 2011/92/EC, as well as Articles 6(3) and/or 6(4) of the Habitats Directive (92/43/EEC) and the Birds Directive (2009/147/EC). The Promoter is used to carrying out Environmental Impact Assessment procedures where required by the competent authorities and mitigating measures are applied as appropriate. An SEA process was carried out as part of a statutory Water Resources Management Plan and published in 2015. The quality and environmental regulators independently monitor compliance with effluent discharge permits and drinking water quality standards.

The Programme is considered acceptable for EIB financing.

The Promoter shall not commit any EIB funds against schemes that require an EIA according to EU and national law without, prior to commitment, submitting the EIA and the non-technical summary of the EIA to the Bank for review and publication on the Bank's website. The Promoter shall not commit any EIB funds against any scheme that may have potential effects on a site of nature conservation importance, without receiving and informing the Bank of the conclusions from the relevant Competent Authority of the appropriate assessment carried out according to Articles 6(3) and/or 6(4) of the Habitats and Birds Directives.